

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully solicited.

Claims 77, 107, 129, 135, 136, 138, 139, 142, and 157 are pending, with all of them being independent. Claims 74 through 76, 79 through 106, 124 through 128, 130 through 133, 137, 140, 141, 145 through 147, and 152 through 156 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 136 and 139 have been amended.

Claims 104, 124, 125, and 126 were objected to as duplicates. This objection is traversed, and is submitted to have been obviated by the cancellation without prejudice of those claims.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned representative to schedule another personal interview, at which the 37 C.F.R. § 41.202 requirements mentioned in the Official Action can be discussed, so as to expeditiously obtain declaration of the interference. Favorable consideration in this regard is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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